1: Kolarz J-4 (no date) 1954 RR1 Siberia RR1

167 361 estimated at 50,000–70,000 inhabitants. Official Soviet sources, while glossing over the strange origin of Magadan, have described it as an important cultural centre, including several houses of culture, dozens of clubs, cinemas, libraries, and two theatres, one for drama, the other for musical comedy. Former prisoners who passed through Magadan have asserted that the actors of the drama theatre were convicts, but Soviet sources of more recent date declare that they were recruited from Moscow drama schools. By December 1952, Magadan had grown large enough to deserve administrative promotion. A decree of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet transformed it from a district town into a provincial town.[16]

Magadan is the largest locality which owes its existence to Dalstroy, but there are others further inland. One of them is Atka – a name which, at the first glance, seems to have an exotic Asiatic flavour, but is in reality an expression of the unromantic technological mind of Soviet Russia. It is simply an abbreviation of 'Avtotraktornaya Kolonna' (Motor Tractor Column), a tribute to the pioneer role of motorized transport in a territory without a railway. Even in 1946 Atka had large garages and automobile repair works where work never stopped, 'not even for a single minute'. Moreover, Atka produces electrical equipment for the purposes of Dalstroy.[17]

MILITARY COLONIZATION

167 729 ●241 Another interesting and unusual form of colonization introduced in the Soviet Far East is what might be described as 'military colonization'. Discharged soldiers of the Red Army, artillery and cavalrymen, infantry and members of the signal corps, as well as sailors of the Red Fleet, settled down with their families in the fertile border regions on the Ussuri River. These military colonists formed a kind of peasant militia ready to be called up at any time for the defence of the 'socialist fatherland'. The first 'Red Army' and 'Red Fleet' collective farms were formed in 1931. They soon became the pride of the entire Soviet Far East and the head of the administration of the F.E.T., Krutov, described them as a shining example for the entire Far Eastern peasantry.

Not all demobilized soldiers became agriculturists; some of them remained in the Far East as lumbermen and fishermen and many also worked on the Far Eastern railways, as has already been mentioned. At the beginning of 1938, 5,000 demobilized Red Army men were accepted into the service of railways. They were all provided with houses and small plots, and each of them received a government grant for the purchase of a cow.[18]

167 241 This last point is particularly characteristic of Soviet colonization policy in the Far East. To increase its defence potential in the Far

1: Kolarz J-4 (no date) 1954 RR1 Siberia RR1

167 Eastern border areas the government made concessions even in the
241 economic sphere. In European Russia only collective farmers were at that time allowed to own a cow as their own personal possession, never industrial or transport workers.

KOMSOMOL COLONIZATION

167 The military colonization largely overlaps with another special form of
665 colonization in the Soviet Far East, which is carried out with the help
383 of the Communist Youth League, the Komsomol. The Youth League is the backbone of the Far Eastern units of the Soviet Army. Towards the end of the inter-war period 60 to 70 per cent of the soldiers in the Far East were Komsomol members. Hence among the demobilized soldiers, too, there must have been a good deal of 'Komsomol spirit'. The Komsomol influence in the Far East is, however, by no means confined to the army. The entire Soviet Far East has been described as a 'Komsomol Territory'. This is true both in the figurative and in the literal sense. The Soviet Far East is 'komsomolsky' because it is a young pioneer country, but the Komsomol, the Communist Youth League, is also directly connected with the Soviet Far East as one of the principal promoters of its colonization.

Many Communist Youth League members went to the Far East as individuals out of a spirit of adventure and also out of a feeling of patriotic duty. The Komsomol, as an organization, was responsible for two big spectacular actions. One was the foundation of the town Komsomolsk-on-Amur, the other was the movement initiated by Madame Khetagurova.

The history of Komsomolsk goes back to the spring of 1932 when the Central Committee of the Communist Youth League chartered two steamers, *Kolumb* and *Komintern*, which sailed with 400 young people, including a number of Civil War orphans, to the village of Permskoe on the Lower Amur. (The village had been founded as early as 1858 by Russian peasant colonists hailing from the region of Perm in the eastern part of European Russia.) Even the first small party of Komsomol members outnumbered the local population of 160 inhabi-
[361] tants. In the second half of 1932 many more young people arrived, and in December of the same year the All-Russian Executive Committee published a decree which transformed Permskoe into the town of Komsomolsk. The decree read well in the Moscow newspapers, but to the young builders of Komsomolsk it must have appeared utterly unrealistic. At the time when the decree was published they were in a state of despair. The building of the town had had to be interrupted in view of the harshness of the Russian Far Eastern winter, and the inexperience of the new settlers had resulted in great complications. During

strong inclination to marshiness are distinguishing marks for this area. The Sikhote-Alin' stretching parallel to the coast keeps back the coolness and also the fog from the sea and allows the sun to have a stronger effect. Everywhere the more southerly position makes itself apparent. In the forests of Sikhote-Alin' deciduous trees appear more and more in the foreground, increasing toward the south, until finally, in magnificent specimens, they form the sole type of tree. In the cultivated zone, too, which stretches along the entire lowlands, typically Manchurian-Chinese plants become noticeable in increasing measure toward the south. Kaoliang and other millet, soya beans, and rice appear noticeably on the scene. There is a change in the population, too. In the northern part of the lowlands, as far as Khanka Lake, Russians and Ukranians predominate; in the extreme south, Chinese and Koreans are in the majority. The Ussuri-Khanka lowland is relatively thickly settled, the Sikhote-Alin' itself, on the contrary, is in large areas as good as uninhabited, except for some mining areas in the south, where /31/ coal primarily is mined. Native Tungus traverse the Sikhote-Alin' in smaller numbers than in the old days, and in addition there are Russian hunters and Chinese collectors, who are looking for secret, legendary plants.

Sakhalin Island stretches over 950 kilometers in a meridional direction. The southern part is traversed by two parallel mountain ridges, which are separated from one another by a relatively wide depression. The eastern mountain chain is shorter but higher, and its peak of 2,013 meters is the highest elevation on the island. Toward the north the mountain ridges flatten out and give way to a hilly plain. The cool, foggy air masses blow unhampered over the land here, while in the south a difference in climate is caused by the mountain chains. The eastern slopes are cool, rainy and unfriendly, while the western side appears somewhat milder. The southern parts of the island, which were Japanese from 1905 to 1945 and only now have again become Russian , are generally more favorable. In terms of its landscape, Sakhalin can be designated a damp, cool, forested mountain country, but in numerous places treeless moss steppes appear, which recall the tundras of the north. Once feared as a Russian prisoners' colony, Sakhalin is advancing economically more and more because of its petroleum and coal resources.

The Okhotsk coastal area begins at the Uda Bay and encompasses, in a narrow coastal strip, the Sea of Okhotsk as far as Penzhina Bay in the extreme northeast. In the western part, which stretches

132 within 24 hours. These conditions, especially the paths of the cyclones, have still not been clarified in detail. The real rain period does not begin until early in July and lasts until the end of August. During this period there is rarely a week without several days of rain.

In addition to the already mentioned downpours, rainfall also occurs in the form of land rains. A very characteristic type has been designated as "subsequent rain" /Nachfolgeregen/ by Arseniev. This occurs when after a storm the day is sunny and still, and then in the evening rain falls again because of the condensation of the rising, very high humidity.

The abundant rainfall of summer causes the rivers to swell, and their high water occasionally spills over the banks, and often interrupts all traffic. In many places the water cannot flow off right away. It remains standing on the level fields. Grass areas turn into swamps. In the low, broad plains on the left side of the Amur, above [312] Khabarovsk, plains which were supposed to have been won for agriculture to supply the rapidly growing city, a large-scale system of drainage canals had to be created, not only in order to drain the ground but also in order to give the rainfall an easier opportunity to drain.

132 The great dampness along with the great heat endangers and decreases
241 the harvest of European types of grain. The grain shoots into grass but the corn yield is slight. The sprouting of the plants suffers from the dryness, while the blooming, ripening, and harvesting fall in the rain period. In this the dampness of the ground /66/Climate Diagram: Ulan Ude; Chita/ also plays a role, for, according to many reports, the yield of the grain fields in the hilly country on the mountain ridges and slopes is higher than the yield of the fields in the valley areas. The softening of the ground by the summer rains makes the use of machinery difficult, and this appeared as a restraining factor in the establishment of the kolkhoz system and the MTS (Machine Tractor Stations). In part steps had to be taken toward the construction of new machines. On the other hand

132 the climate fosters the development of vermin and fungus. The corns
137 of grain are not uncommonly attacked by a spore fungus (Fusareum roseum), which makes the bread "pianyi," i.e. drunken, as the Russians say, because when eaten it has an intoxicating effect and causes nausea. Fruit is distinguished by richness in liquid but by a poverty of sugar. The Manchurian-Chinese cultivated plants and the natural native plant world thrive especially. Characteristic for the forests is a rich underwood, but the trees--and this applies especially to the deciduous trees--are very susceptible to disease, often becoming hollow with internal

/125/ THE ECONOMY

Agriculture

Among the various branches of the economy agriculture stood 162
in the foreground in 1938. Of the entire population 55.8 percent were attached to agriculture; the percentage of those in agriculture in the various regions was as follows:

	rural	urban
Buryat-Mongol ASSR	70 %	30 %
Chita Oblast	56 %	44 %
Khabarovsk Krai	55 %	45 %
Maritime Krai	49 %	51 %

In the interval these relationships have changed substantially. The increase in the total population up to 1950 was 35.6 percent, and the bulk of this was in the industrial sector; accordingly the urban, i.e., the industrial population has a majority today in the entire area of the Far East. Among the various regions the Buryat Mongol ASSR has retained its overwhelmingly agricultural character. The same can also be said of the Amur Oblast newly formed in 1948, though this cannot be verified in figures.

The natural conditions for agriculture are completely favorable 241
in the southern parts of the Far Eastern region. All of Transbaykal lies 132
within the 5° May isotherm, and the Amur Oblast is included in the main in the 10° May isotherm. The brief transition from winter to summer lengthens the vegetation period, which is generally sufficient here. The harsh winter, however, limits cultivation, and accordingly summer cultivation predominates. The rainfall causes difficulties. While a heavier rainfall could be desired for Transbaykal, the rainfall in the Amur and Ussuri regions exceeds the amount necessary, and this results in certain restrictions. The great dampness hampers the ripening of the grain in the fields and fosters the appearance of vermin. Water often remains standing on the flat fields and often leads to the rotting of the plants. Accordingly the Russians are forced to give up European 241
flat cultivation /Flachbau/ in favor of furrow cultivation /Furchenkultur/, in which the grain is sown on heaped up earth so that the water collects in the furrows in the ground and can there seep in or flow off /126/.

The method is used with success everywhere in the Far East by the

•241 Chinese. This method of cultivation, of course, demands more work, and the Russian clinging to his customary methods naturally struggles against it. With the beginning of collectivization the kolkhoz have employed specially constructed sowing machines which take these special conditions into account.

North of the Amur region the natural conditions for agriculture become more unfavorable. The reason for this, however, does not lie in the increasing coldness of the winter but rather above all in the shortening of the vegetation period. These regions, therefore, de-
[242] pend on cultivated plants which ripen quickly. In this connection the Soviet Union has attained successes worthy of recognition in the development of types which ripen quickly and in the use of special methods of preparing seeding (Yarovisation). The Soviet Union has succeeded in moving significantly farther to the north the outer limits for grain cultivation.

134 The earth in Transbaykal in the areas preponderantly covered by forests belongs predominantly to the podsol type; numerous varieties of earth have been formed which sometimes approach loamy soil, sometimes sandy soil, according to the clay content. In the river valleys marshy and semi-marshy soil is widely diffused. The vegetable mold content of the podsol soil is only slight, being 2 percent to 3 percent; in marshy soil, however, it is large, being 15 to 30 percent. In the forest steppe areas and in the steppes of Transbaykal the soil is relatively rich in vegetable mold. East of the Yablonovyy Ridge typical black earth has even developed as far as the Argum. Interesting is the fact that the various slopes of the same ridge often show a different soil profile which corresponds with the plant growth. The north and northwest slope is covered with taiga, under which typical podsol soils lie, while on the east and southeast slopes, which are taken up by loose collections of birches, there is little or hardly any podsol; indeed, according to its external signs it already passes over here into the dark chernozem type. In the Amur and Ussuri country podsol and marshy soils with all their transitional forms take up the greatest part of the land. The soil of the Zeya-Bureya lowland and of the Ussuri-Khanka depression--the principal agricultural areas--consists essentially of young, fruitful alluvial deposits. The dark color of the upper layer of soil, rich in vegetable mold, misleads one into designating it as chernozem, black earth, but in reality it is semi-marshy meadow soil with thick layers of vegetable mold. In the dry spots this soils does in fact recall the black earth in its physical

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The Development of the Area under Cultivation
in 1000 hectares

	Buryat-Mongol ASSR	Chita Oblast	Khabarovsk Oblast	Maritime Krai	Total
1913	191.6	287.2	471.4	201.3	1,171.5
1928	203.7	407.7	740.3	413.0	1,764.7
1938	386.7	592.1	580.8	318.3	1,877.9

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Among the plants cultivated, grain by far stands in first place in all four regions. In the Buryat-Mongol ASSR 90 percent and in Chita Oblast even 92 percent of all the area under cultivation (1938) was devoted to grain; and accordingly the two regions can be regarded as pronounced grain areas. In Khabarovsk Oblast the proportion devoted to grain is 75 percent and in the Maritime Krai it is 69 percent. As is appropriate to the climatic conditions, the cultivation of summer grain predominates. Winter seeding in all four regions together takes up only 27,500 hectares, which is 1.5 percent of the area under cultivation.

/128/ The Cultivation of Grain in 1938 in 1,000 Hectares

	Total Area Devoted to Grain	Winter Grain	Summer Grains: Wheat	Oats	Barley
Buryat-Mongol ASSR	348.8	10.8	133.2	84.9	14.7
Chita Oblast	543.0	6.4	275.4	167.1	31.8
Khabarovsk Oblast	446.0	0.8	242.4	177.6	2.5
Maritime Krai	276.0	9.5	88.3	82.6	6.0

The cultivation of little paying summer rye predominated in the Buryat-Mongol ASSR before 1914, but since then this has been displaced more and more by wheat. By 1938 wheat was at the top of the list of plants cultivated, having 40 percent of the cultivated land devoted to it, and only 27 percent of the agricultural land was devoted to summer rye. The cultivation of potatoes, vegetables, and feed for livestock was entirely lacking earlier, but at present it is being strongly pushed, and by 1938 it had already reached 6.2 percent. In the Chita Oblast the cultivation of wheat has increased considerably and has tripled since 1913. Having 46 percent of the land under cultivation, it comprises exactly half the land devoted to grain. By 1938 only 6.9 percent of the land was devoted to summer rye, which once

dominated. A comparatively large area--3.4 percent of the total--is devoted to buckwheat. In contrast to this monotonous one-sidedness of grain cultivation in Transbaykal, the agrarian picture in the Amur and Ussuri country is more lively and more varied. Here, too, however, grain cultivation predominates, having 75 percent of the area under cultivation in Khabarovsk Oblast and 69 percent in the Maritime Krai. The sunflower is heavily diffused in the Zeya-Bureya plain, despite its damp climate, and recalls the home fields of the Russians in Europe. In the Ussuri region corn, too, again comes into its right, while the sunflower appears not to flourish here. In addition there are two important East Asiatic oil plants which are represented fairly equally in the two regions: the soy bean and the Perilla. The soy bean, which has more than 80,000 hectares of land devoted to its cultivation (1938), is, with its content of 13 percent to 21 percent fat and 35 percent to 38 percent albumen, an extremely valuable product for human and animal nourishment and also for industrial use. Of special importance is the fact that the soy bean enriches the soil with nitrogen and thus raises the yield of the succeeding planting. The Perilla (Perilla arguta), which is related to the sesame, delivers an excellent technical oil. The areas devoted to its cultivation, which was 4,500 hectares in 1938, is being expanded in a planned fashion. In the southern part of the Ussuri region various types of millet are cultivated by Chinese colonists, while the Koreans often devote themselves to the cultivation of rice, which extends into the region of Khabarovsk. Of other technical cultivated plants, flax, hemp, and tobacco are represented in the Ussuri country. The cultivation of sugar beets has special importance; it was introduced after 1920 and has attained a fairly great diffusion in the area of Khanka Lake. The beets are processed in the sugar factories in /129/ Voroshilov (Nikol'sk-Ussuriyskiy) and already cover a large part of the sugar requirements of the Far Eastern region.

In the wide expanses of the north, agriculture is developed only sporadically and serves above all for self-supply. With the exception of on the Chukchi Peninsula, there are very often small gardens with beets, radishes, potatoes, etc., and less often with oats and barley near the settlements. Only Kamchatka has an agriculture worthy of mention; in 1938 it had around 2,800 hectares under cultivation.

Of the four adminstrative units, the Buryat Mongol ASSR and Chita are the only ones which attain a surplus of grain. Both are well on the way to becoming real granaries, but at present their production

241 is still not sufficient to cover the deficit of the two other regions.

Area Under Cultivation Per Person as of 1938

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	Total Area Under Cultivation in 1000 hectares	Area Under Cultivation Per Person in hectares	Total Area Devoted to Grain in 1000 hectares	Area Devoted to Grain Per Person in hectares
Soviet Union	136,943.1	0.80	102,411.0	0.60
Buryat-Mongol ASSR	386.7	0.71	348.0	0.65
Chita Oblast	592.1	0.51	543.0	0.47
Khabarovsk Oblast	580.8	0.41	446.0	0.31
Maritime Krai	318.3	0.35	216.0	0.24
Transbaykal and the Far Eastern Region	1,887.9	0.47	1,553.8	0.39

241 No statistics of equal worth are available for judging the development of agriculture from 1938 to the present, since no such statistics have been published since then. Instead a great number of bulletins from the Soviet press are on hand; but these contain only isolated data of a general type, or special reports from highly variable areas or even localities. It is difficult to form an overall picture from all these reports, but it is the only possibility of being able to get at least a glance at the development.

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Many reports speak of an immigration which benefits both the industrial and also the agricultural sector. Also the enlargement of the area under cultivation and the raising of production often form the subject of these reports, and in this the results of the last Five Year Plan, up to 1950, are especially emphasized. In the steppe regions of the Chita Oblast a beginning has been made in the introduction of artificial irrigation. As a beginning for this, numerous canals were dug in 1948 which irrigated 12,850 hectares. In the vicinity of the big cities the greatest attention /130/ has been devoted to the development of farming near the city and especially to garden farming. In the surroundings of Vladivostok the setting up of 1,560 hectares of garden area in 1948 was envisaged in the framework of a great plan. Also in the Khabarovsk area important wild areas are being converted into cultivated land so as to ensure the feeding of the growing city.

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Here in 1950 a Melioration Machine Station was erected, the first in the Krai, which is to be followed by seven others. Of great significance is the development of agriculture on the Kamchatka Peninsula. Before World War I, according to Soviet figures, the area under cultivation was 4 hectares; in 1938 it was 2,778 hectares. Since then it has further increased. In 1950 there were more than 10 kolkhoz. In 1952 a scientific expedition was sent out from Khabarovsk to Kamchatka to investigate and to prepare for the gaining of additional land for agriculture. In the same year two Melioration Machine Stations were erected, which in the next three years made nearly 40,000 hectares of swamp and taiga country available for agriculture. From Sakhalin, too, successes in the winning of new land were reported. Prominent is the fact that also the native population (Gilyak in the "Chir Unvd" Kolkhoz, i.e., "New Life Kolkhoz") has been used with success in agriculture. How quickly the agricultural occupation of southern Sakhalin has been carried out is indicated by two reports: in 1949 there were 33 kolkhoz there and 3 sovkhoz, and in 1950 there were already 69 collective farms.

The progressive mechanization and technicalization of agriculture constitutes a second important part of the content of the more recent reports. The number of Machine Tractor Stations (MTS) has increased in all regions. In the Buryat Mongol ASSR their number increased from 25 in 1937 to 36 in 1948; in Khabarovsk Krai they almost doubled in number from 1938 to 1947, when they numbered 76. In 1948, 25 Grass Mowing Machine Divisions were installed in the Buryat Mongol ASSR; and from 50,000 hectares of meadowland these Divisions were supposed to supply winter hay for the great kolkhoz, since the manual work force was not sufficient. In the Buryat Mongol ASSR the first agrarian city in the Soviet Far East was also established in 1950, and for this 400 two-story dwellings and 30 one-family houses were constructed. Remarkable, too, are the reports that special mowing threshers were used in harvesting the soy beans and the rice.

Among the plants whose cultivation has been especially fostered, soy beans and rice stand in first place. In 1949 there were 16,000 more tons of soy beans harvested than in 1948. With rice cultivation, on the other hand, progress seems to be made only slowly. In 1937 in the Far East 36,400 hectares were cultivated with rice, and, according to the last Five Year Plan, the area is to be increased to 37,000 hectares by 1950; this is very modest considering the fact that in 1913 there were 57,000 hectares of rice fields. Great attention is also devoted

●241 to the cultivation of sugar beets; the area devoted to their cultivation has again increased in the Khanka Lake area. Tea is supposed to become a new product of the /Russian/ Far East. In 1950 /131/ the [242] Botanical Institute of Leningrad sent an expedition there in order to explore, by attempts at cultivation, the practical possibility of planting tea bushes.

241 433 All the reports mentioned above are only individual pictures of the agricultural film which is being run in the Far East. These pictures show the great strivings of the Soviet Union to use all its power to advance agriculture in these regions. If the grain harvest in the actual Far Eastern area had increased 150 percent in 1947 as compared with 1913 and the potato harvest had even increased 200 percent (Trud, 25 October 1947), this increase in production stands in contrast to an approximately 300 percent increase in population in the same period; accordingly even today the same problems still exist in supplying the population of this area with food, as has been described in the above chapter, since an additional population increase runs parallel to the increase in production, even though the two curves may perhaps have gotten somewhat closer since 1947. The actual Far Eastern regions (not including the Buryat Mongol ASSR and the Chita Oblast) can still be regarded even today as import areas in terms of food. Their dependence on obtaining supplies is alleviated by the increased cultivation of potatoes and soy beans, and import at present is no longer a problem since Manchuria with its agricultural surplus has been brought into the Soviet sphere.

Animal Breeding

231 433 In the livestock-breeding of the Soviet Union Transbaykal assumes a prominent position. While on the average there are 233 cattle to 1,000 persons in the Soviet republic, there are 1,367 cattle to 1,000 persons (1938/39) in the Buryat Mongol ASSR; and while there are 602 sheep and goats per 1,000 persons on the overall average in the USSR, there are here 1,786. The important livestock-breeding areas lie left [232] of the Selenga and right of the Ude. The breeding of better strains is being carried out according to plan by crossing the Mongol cattle with the Simmentaler and by crossing the native sheep with the Rambouillet-Merino. The steppe region left of the Selenga is thus the breeding ground for improved strains. The livestock here is housed for the winter in warm stalls and fed with prepared feed. The horse, which constitutes

Both types of steppes[1] have developed on chestnut-colored 133
soil. Within these steppes salt-pans also appear. Further toward the 137
north the soil becomes darker, its humus content becomes greater (3 per- [134]
cent to 5 percent), it changes into the so-called southern black earth, which has only a slight thickness and has a carbonate layer lying near it. The plant growth becomes richer, the contiguousness of the vegetation covering becomes thicker. These are pronounced grazing areas for sheep and goats. For large livestock they are still not sufficient. For such livestock only the meadow steppes can be considered; these meadow steppes often cover large areas along the rivers. To this category belong the Selenga steppes and the valleys of the Dzhida and the Uda. A similar change in the character of the steppes takes place in the direction of the individual mountain chains, with the various types of steppes surrounding the mountain ranges in Isohypsen /isohyetal?/ contours.

The principal importance of the Selenga steppes lies in livestock 231
breeding, which is intensified by the breeding of valuable breeds. The most important regions here are the areas left of the Selenga and the already mentioned valley of the Dzhida. The old yurts of the Buryat 242
have disappeared, and in their place small, permanent, modest wood houses have appeared which in long rows surround the kolkhoz buildings of the concentrated livestock economy. However, in the less favorable grazing areas, as in the Kundara steppe east of Kyakhta, the old Buryat life has been retained. For processing the resulting skins, a rather large 282
leather processing plant has been erected here on the middle Chikoy under the name of Chikoyskiy Zavod. This plant also draws its raw materials from Mongolia. The cultivation of grain is more in the fore- 241
ground in the other regions on the right side of the Selenga, especially on the lower courses of the Chikoy and the Khilok.

The broad steppe valley of the Uda is the second most important 231
animal breeding area in the Buryat-Mongol ASSR, especially since here numerous Russians have been drawn into animal breeding. In the area 361
around the upper course of the Uda, in the region of the Yeravninsk plain, which is rich in lakes, numerous Russian villages have come into [234]
being in which, in addition to slight agriculture, excellent dairy farming is pursued. The largest localities in this region are Gunda and Sosnovo-Ozerskoye.

East of the Selenga, rising from its delta, is the mountain ridge 133
of the Ulan-Burgassy, which forms the watershed between the Uda and the Turka, which empties into Lake Baykal. This mountain range is broader than the Khamar-Daban and has a marked plateau-like surface

[1] [i.e. artemisian and meadow steppes -- Analyst]

133 Side erosion predominates. Gradually the ridges dissolve into hills. This landscape, designated by Presnyakov as the Gobi type, takes up the entire southern part of the Argun region. Here are the mountain steppes of the Onon and Argun. The Tarey Basin, which is also designated as Onon plain by Russian geographers, should be named as the third province. The Tarey forms a basin with no outlets and extends beyond the Mongolian border as far as the Kerulen. In the center lie the Tarey lakes, of which various ones cover a significant area. Thus the Barun Tarey covers 435 square kilometers, and the Sun Tarey covers 300 square kilometers. The countryside is for the most part level and is interrupted only by former river valleys and lake basins which are now dry. The /228/ remaining lakes lie 60 to 70 meters below the general surface, i.e. at an absolute height of 620 meters, but they are always still up to 5 meters deep. Despite the clear signs of recent drying up, water springs appear in many places on the surface. These springs form the centers of human life. The steppe character often gives way already here to wasteland forms.

The border between steppe and forest extends from Aksha on the middle Onon via Il'inskaya to the north to the watershed between Aga and Ingoda, then on the Ingoda to the east to the mouth of the Aga. From here the border circumscribes the Argun mountain country in an arc swinging to the south via the localities of Onon-Borzya, Akatuy, and Algachi. The border then turns again toward the northeast via Nerchinskiy-Zavod to the Argun.

Southeast of Chita there begins the Aginsk steppe, a true grass steppe, which takes up the river area of the Aga and the middle Onon. [231] Here lies the national oblast of the Buryat, who have made the area into an important livestock-breeding region. The Argun steppe takes up the entire southeast, where livestock breeding likewise dominates the economy. But here there are Russians, who pursue the breeding of cattle and sheep in large, specialized, state farms. In addition, [241] there are also some state farms for horse breeding. To the north of both steppes agriculture, with wheat as the main product, is diffused over a large area, and in a broad front it penetrates to the south. [361] Along the great rivers and also along the Argun the villages extend in a line through the middle of the steppe. The diffusion of agriculture [134] is favored by the circumstance that, despite the often very poor steppe vegetation, a horizon very rich in humus, a type of black earth, has developed under the pitted grass /Grasnarbe/.

000 The wealth of natural resources is, however, of far greater

Region/. Pochvovedniie, 1911.

133 The northern part of the Zeya-Bureya plain lies generally below 500 meters above sea level and declines toward the lower Zeya and the Amur, /247/ /Sketch Map:/ /248/ where the greatest part lies at less than 200 meters above sea level. At Blagoveshchensk the Amur has a height of 120 meters. In individual places the substratum comes out from the flatly deposited Tertiary layers in the form of individual rocks, which consist of granite, Jurassic conglomerates and Jurassic sandstone, or also of porphyry.

The great dampness of the Zeya-Bureya plain, which arises from the excessive summer rainfall, leads in the unlevel regions to hanging landslips and solifluction phenomena of manifold types, which cause great difficulties in the construction of roads and installation of railroads, especially when--as, for example, in the country of mountain spurs--permafrost appears. The peasant fights constantly against threatening swampiness by draining his land. Despite these [311] difficulties, the area under cultivation is increasing continually. The swamps, which as a rule are covered with clusters of grass, are turned into hay fields by fires set off every year, and these hay fields in turn are then turned into cultivated land.

361 Settlement is very thick, and in the valley area of the Zeya, Selemdzha, and Bureya it penetrates farther and farther into the interior. In the plains one can often see from one village to the next one. The settlements differ in no respect from those in the Russian homeland. And when in mid-summer sunflower fields glow between the yellow gold of wheat fields, one might feel himself transported [214] to southern Russia. The cultivation of soy beans and perilla, which here lays claim to a significant percentage of the area under cultivation, [496] appears foreign, however. The railroad crosses the Zeya at Svobodnyy (10,000 inhabitants), where an active wood industry has developed. A branch railroad, which is 108 kilometers long, leads from Kuybyshevka with its more than 10,000 inhabitants to Blagoveshchensk (58,700 inhabitants), the capital of the region. The city extends along the shore of the Amur for a distance of almost 8 kilometers, toward the mouth of the Zeya. The Zeya here is 2 kilometers wide and exceeds even the Amur into which it flows. The city is the center of the entire agricultural area and has numerous flour and oil mills. In addition, the processing of lumber also plays a large role. The lumber is floated here on the Zeya and the Amur. Opposite Blagoveshchensk,

634 kilometers, and its population numbers /255/ 108,400 (1939), of which
131 approximately half are Jews. This region is drained by the Bira, whose upper valley is also used by the railroad, and by the Bidzhan. Both of these rivers run through broad valley meadows, which are covered with cultivated fields. From the two rivers the region has also received the
361 name of "Birobidzhan," which is often used. The capital of this oblast also bears the name of "Birobidzhan." Lying on the railroad at the point where the railroad leaves the Bira, this city has around 30,000
[294] inhabitants (1939). Worthy of note is a large clothing and knitted goods
135 factory, which is the sole large installation of this type in the entire Far Eastern region. The western part of the oblast, which has already been mentioned in the discussion of the Bureya Highland, is rich in the most varied natural resources, of which the coal deposits of Bira and the iron ore of Kimkan are supposed to become the basis for the establishment of a local heavy industry. The Jews are in all occupations, even
●241 in agriculture. In the large section of the west the cultivation of wheat and soybeans predominates; in the smaller eastern section, which is influenced by the nearness of the large city of Khabarovsk, the cultivation
234 of potatoes and vegetables and the breeding of dairy livestock predominate.

361 Khabarovsk, which lies below the mouth of the Ussuri on the right side of the Amur, is the administrative and economic center of the entire Amur region. Its favorable location, in terms of transportation, in the center of a mighty river system and at the end of the Amur and Ussuri Railroad has permitted the city to grow very quickly into a large
[161] city. Having a population of only 52,045 in 1926, Khabarovsk almost quadrupled its population by 1929 when it had 199,364 inhabitants, and today its population has probably exceeded 300,000. This rapid
[39] growth in population goes back above all to the expansion and construction of industrial plants. In the foreground is machine construction, especially the construction of machinery for agricultural purposes, the processing of metal and of wood, and a food industry which is brought together in large plants. As the center of the Amur shipping, Khabarovsk has a shipyard in which coastal vessels are also built. A modern cracking
[382] installation has been added to the older oil refinery in order to process
[508] the oil from Sakhalin. Khabarovsk is the center of all air traffic in the Far East. Several airports are available, and, in addition, there
[241] are plants for the construction of airplanes and automobiles. In the wide surroundings of the city there has developed an agricultural economy which is typical of areas near cities and in which the cultivation of vegetables and the breeding of dairy livestock predominate.

Bureya Mountain Range the deciduous trees disappear as the height increases, and on the mountain range itself and in the Bureya Highland Siberian taiga with Okhotsk strains penetrates generally far toward the south. In the Amur region itself the moderating influence from the south ends with the closed off plain, the climatic conditions become more unfavorable, cooler, and damper; the Sea of Okhotsk dominates here. The meadow steppes change into treeless moss swamps; coniferous forests of an Okhotsk stamp cover the hills, on which here and there the first appearances of high moor formations can be determined. These are signs, which are typical of the northern coastal mountain landscapes. This region already is reckoned as being such a landscape, and it is for this reason that this area along with the drainage area of the Uda will be treated as an independent region.

In the Khabarovsk region the Amur plain is settled over a large area. Wheat, barley, and rye are cultivated here still with good harvests, but toward the north potatoes and vegetables take up an increasing percentage of the land cultivated, since the yield of the grain harvests becomes inferior as a consequence of the dampness of the ground. With sufficient drainage, wide areas could still be won here for the cultivation of grain. Instead the excellent natural meadows serve for breeding of livestock. Toward the north the density of the population decreases rapidly, and approximately from the Mukhen, a right tributary, on, settlement is limited to the river banks on which small villages or individual settlements of Russians or natives are to be encountered at a distance of 10 to 20 kilometers from one another. The settlements for the most part lie on the right bank of the Amur, which is the higher bank. The /258/ left side with its unpredictable high waters is too dangerous for man. In favorable spots larger localities have also developed, such as Troitskoye with its approximately 4,000 inhabitants. In general the settlements are small. The Russian villages can be recognized by their wooden houses. The Gilyak, Goldi, and also here and there Chinese and Koreans, on the other hand, in many cases still occupy mud huts, which are built on the pattern of the Chinese fang-tze. Along with the population, agriculture decreases toward the north. Fishing comes more and more into the foreground, until it becomes the principal occupation on the lower Amur. Here again settlements pile up. According to the state organization of the catching of fish, these settlements are specialized for this trade, and they have heavy immigration. Thus the population grows quickly here, but it is dependent on imports for supplies. All the other areas which

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the Zeya and Bureya. Also the soil both in the Ussuri depression and also in the Khanka lowland is similar to that of the Amur prairies. Here, too, it is not black earth, as is still often reported; rather there is in the main muddy moor soil in the vicinity of the lake; this in turn is surrounded by a broad zone of semi-marshy meadow soil, and following then is weak podsol earth. The last two zones are cultivated almost everywhere, and the soil there can in every respect compare with black earth in terms of its yield. The zone of settlements, therefore, begins to the east and southeast of Khanka Lake but at some distance from the lake. If here, as in the Ussuri region, agriculture has to struggle with difficulties, the reason for this does not lie in the soil but rather in the climatic conditions, above all in the heavy summer rainfall. The winter is very cold and brings only a very thin covering of snow, and thus the ground freezes to great depths. Berg (27) states that at Voroshilov the ground freezes to a depth of up

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27. Berg, L.S., Landshaftno-geograficheskie Zony SSSR /The Landscape-Geographical Zones of the USSR/, (Moscow, 1931), Part I, 1. 372.

to 1.8 meters and at Grodekovo the frost even penetrates to depths of up to 2.4 meters. The planting of winter grain is, therefore, not advisable, nor is the planting of clover and lucerne advisable. The cultivation of winter crops is, therefore, always a risk. Further toward the south, in the Suyfun depression, winter rye is cultivated without danger. As a consequence of the deep penetration of the frost, the ground thaws out only late in the year. There is, however, no permafrost in the entire Ussuri region. The planting of summer wheat begins in mid-April to May, and the harvest begins in mid-August. Oats are sowed two weeks later, but are harvested at the same time as the wheat. The sowing of millet is done still later; the harvest, however, occurs only in the middle of September. The shortness of the time between the sowing and the maturity indicates the generally favorable conditions for the flourishing of the vegetation. The European types of grain suffer now under the dryness and under the strong winds during the sowing period, while during the summer they suffer from the great dampness, which makes fructification in the blooming period uncertain when it rains and which also endangers the maturing at harvest. All the better do the native cultivated plants /269/ flourish. With appropriate methods of cultivation European

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cultivated plants also flourish with great success. Very recently new sowing and cultivation machines have been employed by the Soviet in the entire Far Eastern region, which is damp in the summer. These machines take account of all the conditions of that area. In the expansion of the cultivated areas devoted to soy beans, rice, beans, millet, etc., it has been shown that there has been more conversion to these in more recent times, following natural conditions. The noxious fungus, which prefers to attack the European types of grain, such as wheat, barley, and oats, has already been pointed out. This grain disease occurs in those damp warm regions in especially rainy years. As Arved Schultz (181) has observed, it is very characteristic

181. Schultz, A. Das Ussuri-Land /The Ussuri Country/. Königsberg, Prussia, 1932.

that the fields of the Korean and Chinese peasants are attacked less than the fields of the Russians. There must, therefore, also be some reasons for this. In addition the fight against the Fusorien, of which a total of 22 types have been determined to date, has been taken up by the Soviet.

In contrast to the little populated eastern and southern sides of Khanka Lake, the Tertiary hilly country to the west of the lake is thickly populated and is among the best agricultural regions. A railroad line, which is 127 kilometers long, leads from the Ussuri Railroad into this region and ends right on the border in Turiy Rog at the northeastern end of the lake. On the eastern side of Khanka Lake, the cultivated zone, which continues from the north without interruption, follows the Ussuri Railroad in a broad line, and with broad spurs into the valley of the Daubikhe and Ulakhe, the cultivated zone also penetrates toward the east into the mountain range. South of the lake the cultivated zone takes up the entire area from the Manchurian border to the mountain spurs of the Sikhote-Alin' and extends in an area of almost equal width via the Suyfun depression toward the south to the coast, where on the west side of the Bay of Peter the Great it extends farthest to the south in the coastal plain.

The watershed between the Ussuri and the Suyfun is flat and scarcely makes an appearance morphologically. The Suyfun itself comes from Manchuria and crosses the border almost exactly at 44° latitude. Then it turns immediately toward the south to the sea. The valley area of the river is level and is accompanied on both sides

133 by a peaked series of hills, which are 50 to 100 meters high. However, individual hills all appear on the floor of the valley, from which they rise with very steep walls. Adjoining this area to the east is a gently rolling and irregular Tertiary hill country, which acts as a transition to the spurs of the Sikhote-Alin'. South of Khanka Lake and also in [137] the Suyfun depression numerous small oak forests have been preserved which give the picture of the landscape a varied and attractive impression. As a consequence of the good drainage the best agricultural land in the area is to be found in the Suyfun depression. But also in the Tertiary hill country agriculture is making good progress. Here are the /270/ most thickly populated sections of the Maritime Krai, in which, however, the entire region near the coast of the Bay of Peter the Great must be included.

563 342 •241 Great Russians above all are settling in the Ussuri depression. Their weathered, colorless log houses which are built of wood, are typical of the settlements in this area. Striking, however, in contrast to their homeland are the relatively flat roofs, which probably indicate the slight covering of snow which they have to bear here. Wheat, oats, and barley predominate in the appearance of their fields, but, in addition to corn, native plants, such as soy beans and perilla, are also appearing more and more. Ukrainians are the predominant settlers in the Khanka depression. As has already been indicated, this is based on historical reasons, since people from the Don above all were used in setting up the Ussuri Cossack formation of 1862. But it is still remarkable that it is Ukrainians who are in the majority in this almost treeless province. The bright color of their whitewashed mud houses dominates the settlements, and between the wheat fields corn comes strongly into the foreground. The Ukrainians here have also taken over for themselves the cultivation of sugar beets, just as they have in their homeland back in Europe. But, in addition, the yellow of the mud huts of the Chinese and Koreans also appears already in the individual settlements and in the village communities. These huts are often enclosed by the same mud walls; and in the flat, dammed-up fields there appears the light green of rice plantings, which are predominant in the damp area to the south of Khanka Lake. Further in the south toward the coast there is no longer a clear separation, but along the coast the Koreans increase. They often dress like Russians, but still they are more often dressed in the traditional white of the native clothing.

The breeding of livestock is pursued in the entire area: cows,

The breeding of livestock is pursued in the entire area: cows, horses, and pigs are kept in the main. Ukrainians, Koreans, and Chinese use the ox also as a work animal in the field; the Great Russians, however, do not. Everywhere there is the slender, black Chinese pig, which is of little value. Modern, planned breeding of livestock became possible only after the introduction of valuable breeds by the Soviets in the kolkhoz and sovkhoz.

Under Soviet rule greater improvement work has been carried out in the region of the Ussuri and of Khanka Lake, and further draining is planned. Many things have occurred for the further development of the area through the employment of machines in agriculture, for which these regions are especially suited. The cultivation of rice, soy beans, and sugar beets has been especially fostered in the last few years. The cultivation of sugar beets was introduced here as a new cultivated plant only under Soviet rule. Nothing can be said about the collectivization, which was carried out later in the Far East than in the European part of the Soviet Union and which was carried out only gradually. Nor can anything be said about the type of organization in this area filled with men of the most varying types.

/271/ /Sketch Map:/

/272/Voroshilov constitutes the center of this important agricultural area. Voroshilov lies at the point where the Ussuri Railroad meets the Manchurian Railroad, which, hurrying from Transbaykal across Manchuria, again enters Soviet Russian territory here. The city lies 30 meters above the sea and is 102 kilometers from Vladivostok. It has 70,600 inhabitants (1939) and is the center of a lively food industry. It has a large oil and fat works for processing soy beans. To this works also belongs a soap-boiler and a factory for cosmetic articles. The city has special importance as the seat of two first and largest sugar factories in the Far East. The city of Spassk (approximately 30,000 inhabitants), which lies southeast of Khanka Lake, should be mentioned as the next most important locality. In addition to flour mills and oil pressers, Spassk has the largest cement factory in the Far East. As the last locality on the railroad before the Manchurian border, Grodekovo (approximately 10,000 inhabitants) is worthy of mention. Grodekovo already lies in the western mountains, but with its predominantly wooden houses, it gives a typically Russian border impression, despite its nearness to the border.

From Voroshilov the railroad leads to the south first through hilly country, then, 30 kilometers from Voroshilov, it crosses some

Sketch Map:

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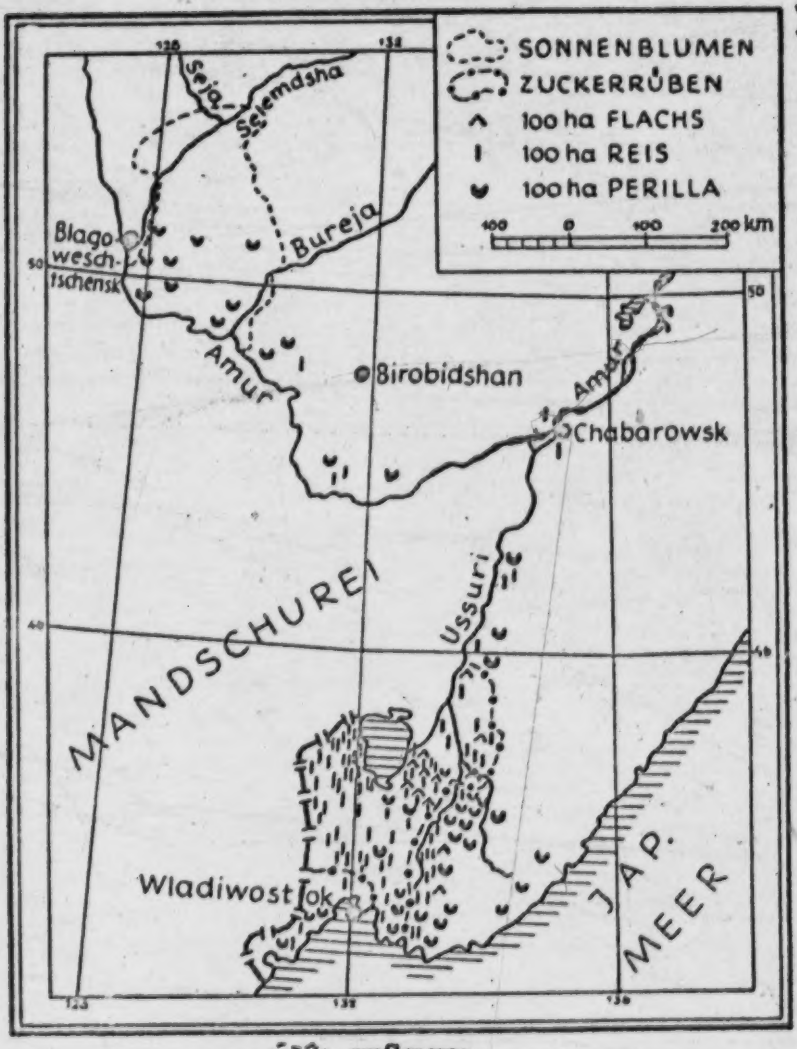

sunflowers
sugar beets
100 hectares of flax
100 hectares of rice
100 hectares of perilla

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ships and indeed in many instances make departure impossible. From Ayan a route starts toward Yakutsk. This route rises steeply over the mountain range to Nel'kam on the Maya, a left tributary of the Aldan. From here the rest of the way is on the rivers, via the Maya, the Aldan, to the Lena. Ayan, which is notorious for its heavy rainfall, cannot really make progress despite its favorable natural harbor; and, although the beginnings of its development reach far back, Ayan has scarcely 1,000 inhabitants.

In the north the Dzhugdzhur Ridge bends away from the coast and makes way for a vast coastal lowland which penetrates deeply into the land. Here, at the mouth of the Okhota, which forms a good natural harbor, lies the village city of Okhotsk, the first and oldest harbor of the Russians on the Pacific. In addition to a telegraph line, Okhotsk has a land route connection with Yakutsk. The use of this route causes fewer difficulties than the route from Ayan. At present Okhotsk is an important fish collection point. On the coast and also in the hinterland of the depression, numerous Russians have settled. In addition to an agricultural economy based on the cultivation of potatoes and vegetables, these Russians devote themselves to the breeding of livestock, which does very well here in the natural meadows of the alluvial plains. Tungus Lamut have joined the Russians, too. These Lamut, in addition to fishing, devote themselves also to agriculture, which they have taken over from the Russians. They apply themselves with the same care to the ox as for generations they have done with the reindeer. Farther in the hinterland of the lowland there are still Reindeer Tungus in large numbers. These Tungus wander as nomads between the bottom of the valley and the mountain tundra.

Northeast of Okhotsk the coastal provinces /288/ have another, more varied character. There is not, as is often still represented on many maps, an interrelated mountain chain which runs parallel to the coast; at least there is none between Okhotsk and the Yama, a river east of the P'yagina Peninsula. On the contrary, east of the Okhotsk, spurs of the Cherskiy Mountain Range run into the coast almost at right angles, and between these spurs relatively wide and long valley areas stretch from the coast far into the interior. In addition, in order to make the picture more colorful, there is farther to the east another orographic element, which is limited, however, to the peninsulas and islands. This is a heavily destroyed and broken up mountain chain, which runs approximately parallel to the coast and which, according to the present level of knowledge, is reckoned as belonging to the inner arc of the

into being. However, a significant part of the immigration has been also for the benefit of agriculture, which, according to all reports, has made extraordinary progress. Thus, Kamchatka, which earlier had to have the bulk of its food supplied from outside, already gets along in large part with its own production, and the goal of autarchy in terms of food will probably soon be reached.

In the southern part of the peninsula, which has a mild climate, the breeding of cattle has attained a great and continually growing significance. The climatic conditions here are approximately the same as those of Sweden. The number of cattle had already reached several thousand head by 1939. A series of livestock sovkhoz have taken over the job of supplying milk and meat to the localities engaged in the fishing industry. In the Kamchatka valley and in the environs of Petropavlovsk agriculture, too, has made a start. The area under cultivation increases from year to year. In sovkhoz and kolkhoz grain, potatoes, and vegetables are cultivated with success. Fruit /301/ trees were introduced, and today are already yielding their own apples. A series of agricultural experimental stations in the interior and also in the coastal regions are to prepare the further development of agriculture and the breeding of livestock.

Of greatest importance for the economy of Kamchatka is fishing and the catching of sea animals. In this respect Kamchatka is the most important area in the Far East, and it is especially prominent because of the appearance of highly valuable types of salmon. The west coast has the principal role in the catching of salmon and crabs. On the east coast the area around the mouth of the Kamchatka is a pronounced salmon region, while Petropavlovsk constitutes the center of the catching of sea animals. From passive, rapacious catching of fish in immovable, built-in traps--the so-called "fish dams," which blocked the river--a transition has been made to catching the fish in sweep nets and drag nets. Thus the fish are now not caught at the mouths of the rivers alone but also in the sea. The earlier, primitive covering of the mounds of caught fish with salt, a practice which was customary on the entire coast of the Far East and under which great quantities of fish spoiled, has given way to smoking of the fish and salting of the fish in vats and above all to processing in canning factories. Modern fishing steamers with processing equipment on board have contributed to making Kamchatka today the second fish-catching region in the Soviet Union, second only to the Caspian Sea. In the catching of crabs Kamchatka even is in first place in the

The greatest part of the population was concentrated on the southern islands, where limited cultivation of rye, wheat, barley and types of vegetables is possible. The principal occupations of the inhabitants--if we can judge from conditions before 1945--were, however, fishing and the hunting of sea mammals. Every summer the population was enlarged by around 10,000 fishermen, who came from Japan and occupied the islands for the catching season. In terms of the value of its yield, fishing was in first place by far, but the catching of walruses also played no insignificant role. The whales, after their summer stay in the Bering Sea, moved along the Kurils in the fall to their winter places in the southern part of the Sea of Okhotsk. In addition, seals and sea lions were also hunted.

After the islands were taken over by the Soviet Union and the greater part of the Japanese had been evacuated, numerous central fishing stations were founded on the islands. Furthermore, a walrus-catching fleet was stationed there, and a walrus-processing works was erected on one island. It is also planned to take up the breeding of fur-bearing animals such as the Japanese had begun.

Because of their volcanic character, the Kurils have numerous hot springs, which for the most part contain minerals. In natural resources the Kurils are poor; only a few of the islands contain rather large sulfur deposits. Exploitation of these deposits for the Soviet economy is being considered.

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are known regarding the total prisoner population, one thing is certain and that is that the entire Magadan enterprise is on a very large scale and that prisoners form the greatest majority of workers. Due to the fact that three known prisoner ships which were operating in 1940, the "Felix Dzherzhinskiy," "Uritsky," and "Dzhurma," are still plying the same Vladivostok-Magadan route, it is a reasonable assumption that the prisoner traffic is continuing. (Note: It is difficult to assume that these ships have changed the nature of their cargo inasmuch as it is definitely known that the holds of these ships were constructed in a special manner to transport large numbers of prisoners; although it is admittedly possible to change the internal structure of these three ships, it is dubious that this has been done, because it is known from reports from Radio Magadan that activities are being expanded throughout the Kolyma economy. Since the death rate has been so high in the past among prisoners, it is difficult to see how further development of the region could be undertaken without importing further number of prisoners every year.)

8) The City of Magadan: One of the results of Berzin's administration was the construction of the city of Magadan; by 1941 the population of this city had been estimated at approximately 70,000, composed of NVD officials and hired specialists who volunteered for service under the Dalstroy administration. It was further estimated that at that time there were some 50,000 such specialists scattered throughout the region. Another section of the population in the Magadan area, numbering a few thousands, was represented by exiles, mostly highly qualified experts whose work in Dalstroy had entitled them to some special privileges, although they are still subject to the NVD. Outside of the city of Magadan there were several big camps for prisoners with fluctuating populations.

The central streets of the city were lined with two- and three story houses. Electricity was provided by a power station which also supplied electricity to the taiga areas by means of wires strung over the surrounding mountain ridges.

The population of Magadan faced a problem in the procurement of foodstuffs. In an effort to relieve this situation, "Magadan has a large experimental farm equipped with hothouses. The latter already (1941) grew 'Kolyma' apples, pears, peaches, and even oranges, not to mention a variety of berries, while all kinds of vegetables are developed in the hotbeds, including cucumbers, cabbage, eggplant, muskmelon, and watermelon."[12] The chief problem in the attempts at agriculture was the geological ice. Repeated deep plowing of the soil, the use of fertilizer in great quantities, and similar measures have been used in scientific experiments and have achieved good results. Thus, in some places the ice formerly came to within one to two feet from the surface of the ground, but it has been pushed down to six or eight feet, which has made possible the cultivation of cereals. (Note: Agriculture in Magadan and the entire Kolyma region will be treated in a subsequent report.)

9) Summation: The entire Kolyma region is growing in importance constantly, and due to the produce obtained from this area, in addition to the increasing population, Magadan and the hinterland cannot be ignored or treated lightly. There are two general aspects of the Kolyma region which should be noted:

1) In the New York Times of 9 January 1946, it was reported that there is total gold supply in Moscow of between the wide range of two and ten billion dollars. The interesting aspect of this surmise is the fact that in 1925 or even in 1930 the Soviet government was forced to sell the treasures of Russian museums in order to pay for machinery that it had purchased abroad. Soviet gold has made its appearance only

12 Dallin, op. cit., p. 133.